

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Meeting of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Water Quality Technical Group

October 1, 1997

1:00 - 4:00PM

Energy Commission Building

Hearing Room A

1516 9th Street

Sacramento, CA

1:00 - 1:45 Program Status - Rick Woodard & Kate Hansel

A. Introduction - Rick Woodard

B. CALFED RFP/Category III Process - Kate Hansel

C. Programmatic EIS/EIR Schedule - Rick Woodard

Status of the August 6 Water Quality Component Report, Affected Environment, and Impact Analysis documents - The Water Quality Component Report was provided to the WQTG on August 6 as an opportunity for them to have input early on into the Programmatic EIR/EIS documents. Although the Water Quality Component Report will not be revised or re-drafted, the information from it and the group's comments on it have been incorporated, as appropriate, into the Water Quality Affected Environment document. The Water Quality Affected Environment and Impact Analysis documents have been combined into a Water Quality Technical Report which is currently being reviewed by CALFED management and staff. Comments on the Technical Report are due back to the document preparers by mid October. Based on these comments, the document will be revised and will be incorporated into the Administrative Draft of the Programmatic EIR/EIS which is scheduled to be completed in early December. The Administrative Draft will be reviewed by CALFED management and staff at that time. Consideration is currently being given to making this document available to the WQTG for review. If the Administrative Draft of the PEIR/S is not available to the WQTG, then the group will have an opportunity to review a public draft of the document in January.

1:45 - 2:30 Status of the Water Quality Action Strategies - Sarah Holmgren

In the August 6 Water Quality Component Report there were many comments on the Action Strategies section. As appropriate, these comments have been incorporated into the action strategies descriptions. Also, projects submitted for early implementation funds earlier this year have been added to the action descriptions as illustrative examples of how the actions may be carried forward. This has been done to increase the specificity of the action strategies, per the request of many members of the WQTG.

In response to many comments regarding the appropriate tools to use when evaluating the effectiveness of actions, a matrix of potential tools has been compiled, showing their applicability to

specific parameters of concern, their strengths and weaknesses, and current uses. It should be noted that water quality concentrations are but one tool that could be potentially used to gauge the effectiveness of water quality actions. It may be more appropriate, in certain circumstances, for a suite of tools to be used. Water quality concentrations have been used to date as a starting point. Before any actions is taken, the appropriate tools for evaluating its effectiveness will be determined based on analysis of available information and best professional judgement. [An overhead that reinforces this concept will be produced].

An update to the proposed California Toxics Rule will be provided in relation to the CALFED Water Quality Parameters of Concern. Handouts showing which parameters of concern are included in the proposed rule and a table showing the proposed rule criteria in comparison to CALFED targets will be provided to the group for update purposes. The proposed rule numbers are an example of how the CALFED program must be flexible to changing circumstances, consistent with the principles of adaptive management. The recent water quality concerns associated with MTBE may also require the CALFED program to be flexible. The water quality issues surrounding MTBE will be explored after the break.

BREAK 2:30 - 2:45

2:45 - 3:15 Water Quality Concerns associated with MTBE - Mike Mageski, USGS

Mike will discuss the chemistry of MTBE, its environmental fate and transport, and current programs underway to monitor its presence in water supplies

3:15 - 3:45 Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program - Judy Heath

Judy will review the CMARP framework and its objectives. She will announce a November workshop date on CMARP and will announce that a more detailed description of CMARP will be made available to the public before the November workshop.

3:45 - 4:00 Wrap-Up - Rick Woodard

Rick will discuss the transition of the CALFED Water Quality Program and Judy's and Leo's new roles.